



www.startingchance.org.za

20 April 2020

Dear Rob and Contributors

RE: COVID-19 – flattening the curve of poverty and hopelessness - donations and response

Greetings to you.

On 7th April when we put out our first letter on the COVID-19 crisis and how it is affecting our schools, we really wanted to be able to help teachers across all 30 schools that are supported by Starting Chance - over 150 teachers. We dared to dream.

Through our survey of our hub schools and our TTinT schools, we found that only 16% of the schools were registered with the Department of Social Development and of those only 4 schools were receiving subsidies. This meant that there were 150 teachers with no salaries in April. 150 families would not have access to food through their breadwinners. It was desperate. We were getting phone calls and WhatsApp messages begging for help.

And then the incredible happened. Donations began to flow in.

The “Invisible threads are our strongest ties.” Frederich Nietzsche. Friends of Starting Chance are our threads around the world and through them there are more and more invisible threads that are changing the lives during this crisis time. **To date we have raised R300 000.** But far more than that we have offered hope and love to a community in a state of hopelessness. Below is a summary of the subsidies paid with the money received:

- **Paid R1000 COVID 19 subsidy to 32 teachers in March from our 9 hub schools (that was all the money we had available at the time.)**
- **Paid R1500 COVID 19 subsidy to 92 TtinT teachers across 19 schools in April**
- **Paid R1500 COVID 19 subsidy to 37 hub school teachers in April**

The responses have been heart-warming and touching. Below are just a sample:

Nontla: “We real appreciate your support starting chance team from Lutho educare. We thank you so much – may God Bless you guys for wonderfully work u did for us and our community.”

Zamampondonodliwa: “Tjooo I wish there was another way to say this so that it can have a taste, but unfortunately there is no other way. On behalf of shining stars staff – thank you so much ttint and SC team – we will be forever grateful.”

Lungiswa: “ Longlive TTinT – I guarantee I now still have my working staff – thank you.”

Starting Chance Trust Registration No IT002472/2015
NPO Reg No 164-217 • PBO No 930051444 • VAT Registration No 4450272614

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Major 1: Thanx, thanx and very thank you to SC team for the effort you put into the life of our community of Mfuleni. May God give you strength to keep serving the communities who are underprivileged in our society."

On behalf of Starting Chance and the ECD community of Mfuleni, we would like to thank you all most sincerely for contributing. It seems likely that we will need to support the schools in May as well.

Should anyone feel they would like to continue to support Starting Chance or if you know of any company or person who might like to join in this quest to try and support staff and their families, please feel free to contact us or donate directly into the account below with the reference Covid_19 and your name or organisation.

- Starting Chance Trust
- First National Bank
- Hout bay Branch 250655
- Account: 6257 2802 504
- OR
- Go to the website: <https://www.startingchance.org.za/take-action/>

Thank you in advance for joining us to support these amazing people in these difficult times.

We will update you again at the end of April but please be assured we are doing our level best to be as supportive as possible.

Kind regards

Trustees of Starting Chance

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